

# Delaware's 22nd annual Chautauqua: "Women's Work: Campaigning for Social Change" on Sept. 10, 11, 19 and 20, 2020

**-All activities to be presented free via Zoom;  
registration required-**

(DOVER, Del.–Aug. 31, 2020)–In celebration of the 100th anniversary of the ratification of the [19th Amendment](#) which granted women the right to vote, Delaware's 22nd annual Chautauqua–"Women's Work: Campaigning for Social Change"–will be presented virtually from the [Zwaanendael Museum](#) in Lewes on Sept. 10, 11, 2020; and from the [New Castle Court House Museum](#) on Sept. 19 and 20, 2020.



Kim Hanley will  
portray suffragist  
Elizabeth Cady  
Stanton on Sept. 10,  
2020.

**NOTE:** Due to the coronavirus pandemic, 2020 Chautauqua programs will not be conducted in front of a live audience but will instead be streamed live via [Zoom](#). Each of the Chautauqua's programs is free and open to its first 100 registrants. A complete listing of activities and registration instructions are available by going to <https://history.delaware.gov/22nd-annual-chautauqua/>.

"Women's Work: Campaigning for Social Change" will demonstrate the passionate efforts of suffragists striving toward one goal–earning the right for women to vote and participate

equally in the nation's political, social and economic life. Through theatrical enactments by both individuals and groups, lectures and musical performances, virtual viewers will be immersed in the [women's suffrage movement](#) and experience the impact that it had on Delaware and its people. Activities will be capped with performances by actor-historians from the [American Historical Theatre](#) portraying the noted suffragists Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Alice Paul and Carrie Chapman Catt; and a concert by the Women's Orchestra Project.



Pat Jordan will  
portray suffragist  
Carrie Chapman  
Catt on Sept. 19,  
2020.

As a compliment to the 2020 Chautauqua, identical versions of the display "Nothing Less: Delaware, Women's Suffrage, and Equal Rights" have been installed at the Zwaanendael Museum and the New Castle Court House Museum. Created by [Delaware Humanities](#), the displays include two, three-sided columns featuring information and images on the suffrage movement in Delaware from 1848 onward. The displays will remain on view until the Chautauqua has been completed. Go to the following for [information on visiting the museums](#) in keeping with Gov. Carney's Phase II reopening guidance issued in the wake of the coronavirus pandemic.

Chautauqua takes its name from a series of adult education programs that were first held at a campsite on the shores of Lake Chautauqua in upstate New York during the late 19th century. Chautauquas spread throughout America in the late 19th and early 20th centuries bringing speakers, teachers, musicians, entertainers, preachers and specialists of the day to a wide cross-section of the nation's rural and small-town population. Circuit Chautauquas (also known as Tent Chautauquas) were an itinerant manifestation of the movement. Programs would be presented in tents pitched in a field near

town. After several days, the Chautauqua would fold its tents and move on to the next community. The popularity of Chautauquas peaked in the mid-1920s, after which radio, movies and automobiles brought about the gradual disappearance of the movement by the 1940s.

Reborn in the 1970s as a vehicle for humanities education, modern Chautauquas are organized around a core program in which re-enactors take on the personas of celebrated historical figures, educating and entertaining audiences as they bring the past to life. Modern Chautauquas have been presented annually in Delaware since 1999 featuring a wide variety of historical figures including Martin Luther King Jr.; Mark Twain; Woodrow Wilson; Teddy Roosevelt; Abraham Lincoln; Amelia Earhart; Dolley Madison; Eleanor Roosevelt; Edgar Allan Poe; the Lone Ranger; John Philip Sousa; and Delaware's own Pvt. James Elbert, Maj. Allen McLane, F.O.C. Darley and Clifford Brown.

"Women's Work: Campaigning for Social Change" is co-sponsored by the [Delaware Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs'](#) Zwaanendael and New Castle Court House museums, the [Lewes Chamber of Commerce](#) and the [New Castle Historical Society](#). Partial funding is provided by a grant from Delaware Humanities, a state program of the [National Endowment for the Humanities](#).



*The Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs is an agency of the State of Delaware. The division enhances Delaware's quality of life by preserving the state's unique historical heritage, fostering community stability and economic vitality and providing educational programs and assistance to the general public on Delaware history. The division's diverse array of services includes operation of five museums which are [accredited by the American Alliance of Museums](#), administration of the State Historic Preservation Office, conservation of the state's archaeological and historic-objects collections, operation of a conference center and management of historic*

*properties across the state. Primary funding for division programs and services is provided by annual appropriations from the Delaware General Assembly and grants from the National Park Service, Department of the Interior, a federal agency. However, the contents and opinions expressed in the division's programs and services do not necessarily reflect the views and policies of the Department of the Interior.*

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